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MORRIS PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION  
COMMUNITY HALL • 3 EAST STREET • MORRIS, CONNECTICUT 06763

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Special Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday September 16, 2020, 7 PM

Call-in Number: 929 205 6099  
<https://zoom.us/j/2374621036?pwd=Q0puT0taVVFyYittVHBxd2pGN0ZYQT09>

Meeting ID: 237 462 1036  
Passcode: 239114

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/2374621036?pwd=Q0puT0taVVFyYittVHBxd2pGN0ZYQT09>

One tap mobile  
+19292056099,,2374621036#,,,,,0#,,239114# US (New York)

Barbara Bongolotti	<b>David Wiig Chairman</b>	
Del Knox	Robert McIntosh (secretary)	Alternates:
Veronica Florio	William Ayles Jr.	Katie Nack
Eileen Narbutas (Vice Chairman)	David Geremia Jr.	
	Staff: ZEO Tony Adili	

### Special Meeting Minutes

#### 1. Call to Order

The Special Meeting opened at 7:03 p with David Wiig, Veronica Florio, Williams Ayles Jr, Robert McIntosh, David Geremia Jr, and Eileen Narbutas present.

#### 2. Zoom Meeting Procedures

Vice Chairman Eileen Narbutas described the processes of the meeting so there would be no issues. The packet also had the instructions on how to get into the meeting and how the board would select people for public comment.

#### 3. New Business

- a. **PZC Application 20-24 - 21 Higbie Rd./124 Watertown Rd. - Approval re: Executive Order 7MM - southFARMS - Outdoor Concerts and Comedy Shows.**

#### Public comments to the commission

Ben Paletsky the owner of the property was not present to the meeting. He provided a statement and David Wiig read it into the record.

The next thing was there was a public comment and the board received comments from residents of the town.

Beth Murphy: Beth lives on 209 East Street and she supports the activities at South

Farms. She said it is good for the town and brings people outside.

Heather Smith: Heather is the manager at Winvian Farm and she also supports Bens activities at South Farms and that it she thinks it an asset to the town.

Linnea Morris: Linnea understands the economic issues of the Covid 19 emergency. She also likes South Farms but also believes there issues such as noise. She is also a frontline worker.

Joel Skilton: Joel says there were errors with the COVID 19 emergency orders and agrees with Attorney Steve Byrne that the use is not permitted in that zone under the current regulations.

Joan Seabury: Joan is a frontline worker and she is upset by how loud the events are. She just wants peace and quiet.

Sandra Bertacinni: Sandra is concerned how these events fit with the rural character of the Town of Morris.

Greg Butkiss: Greg thinks the events are cool, but since he lives very close to where the events take place he is impacted by the noise.

Lori Kibbe: Lori is concerned about the noise, the language used by some of the comedians, and the traffic issues with bringing in 500 people into town for events.

Erica Dorsett: Erica supports Bens events and she wishes Lori Kibbe could elaborate on those issues.

Cynthia Voight: Cynthia agrees with what Lori said and is concerned about the health impact of all these people coming into town for these events.

Michael Paulone: Michael recently moved to Morris and is concerned about the traffic during the events.

Paula Richard: Paula has been to 4 shows and she supports the events.

Deborah Weik: Deborah supports the venue, but she has concerns about traffic and the noise coming from the event.

Joe Stack: Joe is concerned about the noise and the traffic.

### **Planning and Zoning Commission comments**

Robert McIntosh (board member): Bob is also concerned about the traffic, noise, volume, and language used at the events. Bob also said we may have to follow municipal estoppel.

Eileen Narbutas: She said that this has been approved and we should try to move forward.

Veronica Florio: She is concerned about noise

David Wiig: Someone asked if the events are in the proper zone and David said that if there was not a Covid-19 emergency this would not be allowed.

William Ayles Jr.: Bill talked about traffic patterns.

Robert McIntosh: Robert McIntosh made a motion to set a special meeting date with applicant Ben Paletsky on a plan to relieve/mitigate resident concerns related to event volume, lighting, traffic, frequency of events, and comedic content (subject matter), while the temporary permit stands. Veronica Florio seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**4. Old Business**

- a. Morris Town Plan of Conservation and Development (POCAD): Documents will be provided on the Town of Morris Website. Updated POCAD document.**

There was minor discussion about the Town Plan.

**5. Minutes: Minutes are uploaded on the Town of Morris Website**

- a. August 12<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting Minutes**
- b. August 19<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing Minutes**
- c. September 2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Meeting Minutes**

**6. Public Input on non-agenda items**

**7. Adjourn**

Veronica Florio made a motion to adjourn at 9:05 pm. Eileen Narbutas seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.